

geographical lines. To-day I have been more than usually despondent, as I see how the folly of our Southern people in taking up a false and destructive issue, and assaulting the very foundations of public and private credit, are throwing away the solid fruits of the great victory, solidifying the North as it never was solid in the burning days of reconstruction, and condemning the South to a position of inferiority, and of lessening influence in the Union, she has never before reached. I am amazed at the blindness of leaders and followers, and deeply feel its reflex influence on all the past record of that section; and how much harder it makes the task you have so conscientiously performed.

But I must not use my leisure hour to inflict too long a letter on you. Let me thank you again for writing this volume, and tender my gratitude for the copy you have given me.

Most sincerely yours,  
Wm. L. WILSON.

HON. J. L. M. CURRY.

Again and for the sixth time Curry sailed for Europe in January of 1895, and arrived at Rome on the first day of the following month, whither Mrs. Curry had preceded him. Here he visited his old friend, Cardinal Rampolla; and later spent some time in the island of Corfu, and in various points of Greece. A letter to his grandchildren displays the tender nature and eager, observing spirit which kept him young to the end:—

ON STEAMER "VESTA," ADRIATIC SEA.  
19 Apr. 95.

MY DEAR CHILDREN:

I send this congratulating Mary L. and Manly on their birthdays and wishing them health, happiness and prosperity.

My last letter was posted at Corinth. By rail we travelled from there to Mycenæ, the home of Agamemnon, the leader of the Greeks in the Trojan war. Here Dr. Schlieman found the rich golden treasures in the royal tombs, of which I wrote you, as being preserved in the National Museum at Athens. By carriage we drove through the Argolese plain, fertile and dry, delightful in the twilight, to Nauplia.

Naples. 21st.—*En route* to N. we visited the Heraeum, the ancient national sanctuary of Argolis, corresponding to the Acropolis in Athens. We had to leave our carriage half an hour away and climb the rough ascent, but one of the young men met us and gave us a cordial welcome, and also a cup of refreshing tea. The excavations of late years have been made by, or under the supervision of various archæological societies, Greek, German and American. These ruins are made by the American School. Work was suspended because of Easter, but we saw Hoppin, Tilton, Rogers and others. These and others are distinguished graduates of our universities, who receive fellowships because of their excellent scholarships.

Epidaurus, on the east of the Peloponnesus, has a most magnificent and well-preserved ruin of a temple, which is very large and was constructed against a semi-circular mountain. The acoustics were very remarkable. From the uppermost seat, 190 feet distant from and 75 feet above the orchestra, a low tone of voice could be heard. Here also was a temple for the *cult* of Æsculapius, the god of healing. One is puzzled to know how these immense and costly structures could have been built in a country not densely populated and not rich. We wandered over the remains of these old buildings, put up 2500 years ago and were compensated for an all-day carriage ride.

Nauplia is built on a kind of promontory, projecting into the sea, was the first capitol of the modern Greek kingdom, is the seat of an arch-episcopate, and has some commerce. We were there during Good Friday and

Easter evening, and going on the night before Easter, or rather at the midnight of Easter, was a grand religious ceremony. The church was packed with people, each one of whom, old or young, male and female, held in hand a long unlighted candle. When the clock struck twelve, the archbishop in his clerical vestments, a tall handsome man, came through a narrow door, behind the main altar, holding a silver candelabra with six branches, each having a lighted candle. On his appearance, many, mainly boys, rushed forward to light their candles. The archbishop drew back and reproved the irreverent eagerness, and then less violently, candles were lit from his. As he opened the door, I should have said that he proclaimed, "The Lord is risen indeed." The whole assembly proceeded to the plaza in front of the church, where a rude but decorated platform was erected. On it were seated or standing military and civil officers and the archbishop. When the last read the Evangel, a procession was formed, which marched through the streets, singing, firing crackers, shooting off rockets and giving vent to their joy, which however interesting to them, kept us from sleeping.

Looking out, early Easter morning, on the square in front of the hotel, we saw the soldiers roasting their paschal lambs or sheep, cleaned and disemboweled, the carcass had thrust through it, from head to tail, a long pole or spit, which by two men, was slowly revolved, near embers or ashes until the meat was thoroughly roasted and looked very appetizing. Some kind of sauce, the ingredients of which were salt, pepper and lemon juice (not vinegar) was, from time to time, put upon the turning body. Easter, besides being a religious festival, is a national holiday, and little work is done in shop or field, until the following Thursday. Every family, even the poorest, has a lamb roasted, and this consumption of mutton helps to account for the great number of sheep which are to be found in Greece. We saw thousands,

which in a few days, will be driven to the mountains for pasturage. On the streets and in the villages we saw the lambs roasting, and officers and soldiers take meals together, for Easter equalizes all ranks.

I had long had a desire to see a baptism performed after the Greek ritual and on Easter night I had the curiosity gratified. The ceremony took about 20 minutes for its performance, and was participated in by priests, responsive choristers, mother, godfather, and witnessed by about thirty persons. Places of honor were assigned to us and after the baptism, parents, priests, and others shook hands with us. A tin basin, near the middle of the church, was more than half filled with water and oil was added, while the priest read the ritual. He made a cross with his hand three times in the water; subsequently breathed upon it three times, each time making a cross in the water. The child having been undressed was held by the godfather, and the priest anointed head, hands and feet with oil, and then besmeared the body. Soon afterwards, he immersed the little fellow, about six months old, three times in the water, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. When the clothes were put on, a charge was given to the godfather, who repeated it to the mother. I was asked to name the child, but as neither Jabez nor Lamar could be readily Grecized, I suggested William, the name of my friend, Mr. Kingsland, who was rich and believed in baptism of babies. It is the custom for the one who gives the name to give a suit of clothes, and my friend readily "shelled out" twenty dollars in gold. When we were in the train the next morning, father, mother, baby, brothers, grandparents came to take leave of us, evidently pleased that "Gulielmus" had such a good start in life.

We had a long day's travel to reach Patras, our road, as when we visited Athens, skirting the Gulf of Corinth. It is a pity that the Canal between the Gulf and the Eastern waters is too narrow a shelter for large vessels,

as the route would be most charming for visitors to the classic land.

During our stay in the Peloponnesus we had the services of an industrious and polite dragoman, who was a good commissary and quartermaster, and an unscrupulous extortioner.

The night we reached Patras, about twelve o'clock, a fire broke out near the hotel and all the town gathered to witness the sight. We packed trunk and bags and made ready for a precipitate exodus, but were saved that experience.

To-morrow Dr. Taylor and I will start to Sicily.

With best love from both of us to all, we are,

Yours lovingly,

J. L. M. CURRY.

MANLY CURRY TURPIN,

MARY LAMAR TURPIN,

Americus, Georgia.

May found him and his wife in Florence, where he gave sittings to a sculptor for a marble bust, which was completed in the following November. In March he met Goldwin Smith and left a little thumb-nail sketch of him which is worth quoting:—

In 1861, Arnold wrote of him, "personally, a most able, in some respects even interesting man." At a dinner at which he was present in Washington City, 26 March, 1896, he seemed to me to be a soured, discontented man. Of Chamberlain, "able without morals;" Gladstone, "writes on theology and science about which he is ignorant;" Palmerston, "a Russophobe;" Napoleon, "wanted European recognition, and brought on the Crimean War," which all regretted afterwards. He (Smith) saw no reason why Russia should not have an outlet to Mediterranean. "The Jews are getting behind the press, in Europe and America."

During the years 1896 and 1897 Curry appears to have been especially interested in those concerted movements in America in favor of the World's Peace, which were then claiming, and have since continued to claim wide attention. At Washington in April, 1896, a National Arbitration Conference for the promotion of international arbitration, at which more than forty states of the Union were represented, was in session for two days. Curry was appointed by this assembly one of a committee of five, with George F. Edmunds, James B. Angell, Henry Hitchcock, and Gardiner G. Hubbard, to prepare and present to the President of the United States a memorial in behalf of the accompanying resolution of the Conference; and this memorial was personally presented to Mr. Cleveland by a sub-committee composed of Messrs. Curry and Hubbard on May 14th. Curry's interest in international arbitration is again evidenced in January, 1897, by the following entry in this journal:—

January 18.—At 5 p. m. at Hon. John W. Foster's attended a conference to promote the ratification of the Anglo-American Treaty.

In this connection at subsequent dates appeared in the journal these entries, significant of his continued attitude towards the great question of the World's Peace:—

February 27, 1897.—Called and took leave of President Cleveland. Evidently moved. Had little to encourage him, amid so much partisanship and treachery except assurance of confidence of friends and the consciousness of duty done. It seemed as if some Senators were trying

to precipitate a war with Spain. Had gloomy forebodings as to party and country.

March 28, 1898.—To the House, and heard President McKinley's Message transmitting Report of Court of Inquiry on "Maine" disaster.

Galleries packed.

March 29.—Dinner to Senator Gorman by Governor Carroll. Mr. Thompson, Senators Allison, Gray, and Hale, Speaker Reed, Justice White, Mr. Barrett, Admiral ...., General ...., and myself. All opposed to war. Speaker and Senators despondent; thought insane war feeling would plunge us into untold trouble.

On October 6, 1896, a special committee of the Peabody Board of Trustees met in New York City, to consider the expediency of terminating the Trust in the following February. After due deliberation, they decided to report an adverse judgment; and at the meeting of the Board the next day, the decision of the committee was unanimously confirmed. Curry submitted his annual Report; and was re-elected General Agent.

Perhaps no year of his career was a busier one in the work done by him with State legislatures than was that of 1897.

He appeared before the legislative bodies of the States of North Carolina, Arkansas, Texas, Florida and Georgia, and made addresses on behalf of education.

Uninterrupted and incessant work was the main-spring of his life. His interest in life never failed him and he could not deny himself to popular demand. When not urging upon State legislative assemblies the importance and necessities of educating the people, his energies were spent in other

directions no less significant. In 1898 he addressed, among other bodies and gatherings of influence, the Constitutional Convention of the State of Louisiana; and he spoke later in the year at the opening of the Domestic Science Building at Hampton, upon the thirtieth anniversary of the foundation of the Hampton School. On the fourth of July, at Chicago, he delivered an address to the assembled faculties, students and patrons of the University of Chicago on the "Principles, Acts, and Utterances of John C. Calhoun, Promotive of the True Union of the States."

With all his unabated loyalty to the people of his section of the Union, and to the memories of the tremendous conflict in which they had once engaged in behalf of their view of constitutional liberty, it may be said of Curry with absolute truthfulness, that the most impressive thing about him in his post-bellum period was his intense and shining Americanism. He must figure always in the thought of those, who know his life and have followed his career, rather as an American than as an Alabamian or a Virginian or a Southerner. He had believed in his youth, with a passionate belief, in the theoretical ethics of secession. He did not change that belief in his old age, and after varied experiences. Calhoun was second only to Aristotle in his regard; albeit the flag of the Union stirred his highest eloquence, and the great, unrended nation, with its dreams, its needs, its perils, its ideals had come to appeal to him as did nothing else on earth.

At the moment, on the 4th of July, in that summer of 1898, when he was making this address, just mentioned, before the University of Chicago, in the waters about Santiago the American warships were

thundering out the knell of Spanish rule within the Western Hemisphere. As he was defending, with all the power and passion of his mind and heart, the constitutional orthodoxy of the great South Carolinian's theory of the Federal Government, at intervals a messenger boy would arrive upon the scene with a telegram; and the proceedings were interrupted, while the announcement was read of the destruction of another and yet another Spanish ship, amid the patriotic applause of the audience. Then the speaker would turn to the Star-Spangled Banner, draping the platform, and make it the basis of an appeal for unity and nationality; and after the applause had died away, would revert again to Calhoun and his great philosophy of government, without a lost note in his eloquence.

To have passed a morning with John Caldwell Calhoun, Santiago and the American flag vividly entwined before the face of an American audience, was something more than interesting or dramatic in the man who accomplished it. In it an essential characteristic of his being stood revealed. His real genius and passion were for adaptability to environment without the surrender of principle,—for sympathy with his time,—for service on the side of its better forces,—for the future, despite the past. Two letters referring to this address from antipodal sources illustrate vividly his power of appeal and the strength of his contention:—

54 WALL STREET, NEW YORK,

January 20th, 1898.

MY DEAR DR. CURRY:

Thank you very much for yours of the 17th. I can hardly tell you how much I value your favorable opinion, even while I think it too eulogistic.

To say the truth I was not in very good trim while writing it and feared that it was a mere collection of common-places. I came to think a little better of it before I delivered it, and after hearing what you and others have said, I am quite puffed up.

You have a very interesting subject to deal with at Chicago. I have long been of the belief that the animating motive of all the later of Mr. Calhoun's efforts was his love of the Union and his deep concern lest it should fail,—not that he would sacrifice the South to it,—I do not expect men to give up kindred and firesides—but the fear which harassed him without cessation was that the feeling between North and South would be brought to such a point and so influence action, that a rupture would follow.

You may not find so concurring an audience as I did.  
With very high esteem and regard,

Truly yours,

JAMES C. CARTER.

J. L. M. CURRY, LL.D.

157 STATE STREET, MONTPELIER, VT.

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND:

I have no words adequately to express my admiration of your wonderfully condensed and powerful statement of the respective rights of the States and the delegated powers of the General Government.

I can hardly keep silence when I hear our young people, the future conservators of our liberties, prating about "the arbitrament of war settling the question of the right of secession" and I am very glad you explained that war neither settled or impaired any fundamental right, though it might prove the power to nullify it for a time.

Your explanation of the primary cause of Mr. Calhoun's nullification theory is the one which those who knew him best always recognized—his overweening love for the

Union and passionate desire to preserve it, which caused him to overlook the dangers of the remedy he advocated.

Your whole address forcibly reminds me of the appeals to which I have listened with breathless attention from dear Mr. Calhoun in the last years of his life when his mind dominated his fragile body so entirely that it rose almost into the realms of omniscient foresight and poured out the cumulative wisdom of his noble statesmanship in such terse argument that the loss of a word or part of a sentence seemed a misfortune.

Old and feeble as I am I should have been glad to go to Chicago to hear one more "old man eloquent," one more large minded statesman with "hands unstained with plunder" plead for the restoration of our inalienable liberty—and resting his efforts not on the adventitious aid and appeals of that eloquence of which I know you to be a past master, but on the clear concise recital of great truths based upon incontrovertible authority.

I never could understand the basic stability of Russia's despotism until I discovered in reading a history of the country that every little hamlet has its community independence with which the general despotism dare not interfere.

I have for some time wanted to ask a favor of you. My husband's tombstone can only receive 100 words of epitaph, and it is now ready for that so that it can be set in place before his statue, when it is finished, can be erected and unveiled in October next. Will you send me one for it. I have asked the same favor from several friends in different parts of the South so that I may get one of which all who loved him will approve and will then try to choose the one most suitable for it. May I have one from you? An epitaph is to me the verdict of his contemporaries and I attach great importance to it for posterity.

I am living here getting such comfort as I can from the magnificent scenery and the quiet of this little New

England town and shall not leave here until the end of September when I shall return to New York. I went South last Spring and dismantled my house as the risk of leaving valuable things there was great, and without my darling I could not live in that isolated place alone. Now I "find my warmest welcome in an inn" and for the little time left to me on earth it is easier than house-keeping—and I feel like a lotus eater—and am willing to float without resistance to circumstance.

With much love to Mrs. Curry and thanks for your address,

Yours affectionately,

V. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

July 31st, 1898.

On November 12, 1898, Curry and his wife, in company with several intimate friends, sailed for Naples. They spent a month or more at Baiae and other places in the vicinity, in an atmosphere of old world memories and Horatian measures; and in the last days of December crossed the Mediterranean, and sojourned for a month or more of the New Year in Egypt. There they were presented to the Khedive; and amid the ancient glories of the Pyramids and the impressive ruins of Karnak and of Thebes, Curry's thoughts turned first of all to, and remained longest with the Egyptian schools. The heroic stories of Omdurman and Khartum—of the wild charge of the white-robed dervishes and the fate of "Chinese Gordon"—all came in for their full share of eager attention; but his most earnest contemplation of Egypt was of its missions and of the agencies of education developing in the ancient land.

Leaving the Nile Valley on St. Valentine's Day, they reached Naples again on the 17th of February;

and after spending a few days in Rome, Monte Carlo and Paris, Curry and his wife arrived at New York in the latter part of March.

Under date of April 6, 1899, he writes in his diary:—

Called on President McKinley, who received me cordially. I told him Lord Cromer's opinion that the government of Cuba and Porto Rico would be found more difficult than that of the Philippines; and he said he concurred, especially as to Cuba.

In June, 1899, Curry was elected the second President of the recently established Educational Conference that met at Capon Springs, West Virginia. Bishop Dudley of Kentucky had preceded him in the presidency of the Capon Springs Conference, and Dudley had been succeeded in that office by Mr. Robert C. Ogden of New York.

The fourth Conference, which would have met according to custom at Capon Springs, was diverted by the death of the proprietor of the hotel at that place to Winston-Salem, N.C. Here, under the inspiring influence and untiring energy of the new President, Mr. Robert C. Ogden, were set in motion the forces that finally resulted in the organization of the Southern Education Board in New York City on November 3, 1901. Dr. Curry was present at the organization of this new and vital force in American educational life, was made its supervising director, and seemed to perceive with great insight and enthusiasm the meaning of the organization which was being formed to carry forward and vitalize the plans for which he had long dreamed and worked. His associates were Robert C. Ogden, the President of the

Board, George Foster Peabody, Charles D. McIver, Charles W. Dabney, Edwin A. Alderman, Wallace Buttrick, Hollis B. Frizzell, W. H. Baldwin, Albert Shaw, Walter H. Page, and Edgar Gardner Murphy. The occasion was characterized by Curry's splendid optimism; and his genial humor and forceful eloquence distinguished the banquet, which was attended by a notable company to greet the new force for good.

This Board was a natural and inevitable offspring of the activities of the Peabody Foundation. The great need in Southern life was the formation of a powerful public opinion for popular education. Curry, fast feeling the touch of the years, could not alone accomplish this task, though his strength were as the strength of ten. Public opinion in such great social movements must be continually strengthened and enlightened. This Board took up that task and may be said to have accomplished an amazing total of good in its short life. So untechnical and inspirational have been its influences, that it is difficult to describe them in any brief space. It had no funds to distribute to educational institutions. It sought to ally itself with State and local agencies. Its purpose has been steadily not to obtrude, but to efface itself in the interests of the people. Its fundamental principle was profound faith in the self-reliance and creative power of the people of the South. Its supreme desire was simply to help a great people struggling with the most difficult group of problems ever presented for solution to a democratic society. Its fundamental aims were to increase the habit of self-help among a people overburdened, but proud, and rightly determined to mould their institutions after their

own way and with their own means. Mr. Edgar Gardner Murphy in a clear statement before the National Education Association in 1906 thus succinctly defines the functions of the Board as then outlined:—

The chief function of the Board has been the winning of rural communities to a larger policy of local taxation for school purposes. In States where the unit of taxation has been the county, assistance has been given to the "county campaign," the representatives of the Board helping in the organization of public meetings, defraying the actual expenses of effective speakers, creating and circulating the literature of the subject, and co-operating with the local educational leaders in an effort to secure an affirmative popular vote on the question of a larger local tax for the benefit of the schools.

Where the unit of taxation is the school district, the same methods are employed; the Board working here, as always, solely through the authorized and accepted agencies of the locality concerned. These local campaigns have powerfully affected the general school legislation of the State. State funds—heretofore the chief resource of the Southern school system—have rapidly increased, in a number of States, from 50 to 100 per cent. during the past five years. Local organizations of women for the improvement of rural schoolhouses have been established; or, in cases where such activities have already existed, they have been strengthened and equipped for still larger work. The movements for the formation of school libraries, for the development of high schools, for agricultural education and manual training have all received recognition and reinforcement. The Board does not assume that the educational awakening of the South has been due to its initiative, for that great movement was born in the South, had become irresistible before the formation of the Board, and has been carried

forward by Southern leaders, but its vital part in this arousal of popular enthusiasm for the common schools is generally recognized. Its activities have been conspicuous and at many points decisive.

In the year 1910, still under the Presidency of Robert C. Ogden, and assisted by the fine technical skill and statesmanlike grasp of Wyckliffe Rose, the successor to Curry as General Agent of the Peabody Fund, this Board is busily at work in cordial co-operation with the State authorities of every Southern State, upon the greatest and most pressing of our present educational tasks, the unification of the State's educational forces. In October, 1902, Curry attended his last meeting of this Board whose aims and policies he so cordially approved. His appearance at that time greatly moved his associates. His handsome face was drawn with pain and his graceful figure wasted by suffering, and in his eyes those who loved him saw, with unspeakable pain, the look that betokens the sight of another world. But he attended to his duties, met his friends with the high courtesy that sat so well upon him, and bore himself like a proud man who does not fear death nor anything but failure to bear his share of the work to be done. His inability to attend the Athens Conference in the Spring had elicited this characteristically modest letter from the president of the Conference:—

NEW YORK, June 6, 1902.

HON. J. L. M. CURRY,  
Care MORGAN, HARGES & Co.,  
PARIS, FRANCE.

MY DEAR DR. CURRY:

I am in your debt for two recent favors, the last under date of May 25th, at hand this morning. You were

respectfully and gratefully remembered throughout the entire Athens Conference, and, although your absence was deeply felt, your spiritual presence was constantly in evidence. Both for our sake and yours I regret that you could not take part in and observe the development of the ideas in which we are so deeply interested and the broadening sympathy with which they are received. We, of course, all understand the delicacy of our work, and therefore it is a great satisfaction that the Conference proceeded from start to finish with a manly expression of opinion and yet without any interruption to the spirit of the harmony.

My own relation to the whole affair is much like that of a conductor to a street car, my duty being to ring the bell for the starting and stopping and so much intent upon the progress of the vehicle that I cannot take in very clearly what the passengers are talking about. Therefore I lose a great deal of the instruction and inspiration that I would prefer to receive.

The more comprehensive our knowledge of the needs, and appreciation of the delicacy of the question with which we are involved, the more stupendous does the task appear to me to be. Considered in the mass—hopeless; taken up in detail—full of encouraging signs. Just when and how it is all to work out I do not see clearly, but have the faith that, because right is right, it will eventually result in conditions that will make for peace and prosperity of our common country.

All of your friends and the people everywhere have been delighted over the success of your mission to Spain, and we hope that you are now to have such a period of rest as will bring both you and Mrs. Curry back with renewed strength.

Your grand-daughter was most welcome to all the guests on our Southern excursion. At Athens we had three other young women from the South, who accompanied us all the way round to New York. To the entire

company this group of four Southern girls seemed the crowning grace of our excursion.

Very sincerely yours,

ROBERT C. OGDEN.

The development of the common schools seemed to Curry the great fundamental proposition in social progress; and his estimate of its significance is illustrated by a paragraph contained in the last annual Report that he ever made to the Peabody Board.

It should be a cardinal maxim that the true purpose of the school is to fit the child for the duties of the man, to train the whole man in right-mindedness, in personal worth, in character shaped by truth and duty, in the knowledge and achievements necessary for the life of the citizen. That was a striking remark of Governor Russell: "There is an everlasting difference between making a living and making a life."

Two more interesting items, belonging to the year 1899, may be chosen for chronicle here, out of a great number that might be noted if space permitted. On November 2nd and 3rd was held at Washington a meeting of the National University Committee; and Curry and his wife entertained the Committee at dinner. For a number of years their home had been in Washington in order to facilitate the work he had in hand. A Washington newspaper gave the following account of this function:—

Hon. J. L. M. Curry, a member of the National University Committee, gave a dinner last night to his colleagues. The guests were President Eliot of Harvard; President Harper of Chicago University; President Alderman of the University of North Carolina; President Wilson of Washington and Lee; President Draper of

Illinois University; Justices Brewer and Brown of the Supreme Court; Assistant Secretary Hill of the State Department; Mr. Langley of the Smithsonian; Mr. Kapon of the Bering Sea Commission; Superintendents Maxwell and Soldan, of the city schools of New York and St. Louis; Professor Murray Butler of Columbia University; Mr. Dougherty, late President of the National Education Association; Mr. Canfield, Librarian of Columbia University; Dr. Harris of the Bureau of Education; Mr. Putnam of the Library of Congress; and Mr. Proctor of the Civil Service Commission.

In December the following entry occurs in his journal:—

B. F. Johnson, book publisher, of Richmond, Va., proposes a series of ten historical volumes, to be prepared by competent authors, and invites me to be editor-in-chief.

Men had not yet lost confidence in the veteran educator and scholar's power for usefulness, though he had already passed beyond the mark of the Psalmist's three-score years and ten.

During a considerable part of this year, he suffered, as his diary shows, frequent and painful attacks of kidney trouble. On the 18th of June he notes that he began "electrical treatment." These physical disabilities, however,—premonitory as they were,—were not sufficient to daunt his restless spirit, or to give pause to his energy in public service. Responsibilities did not cease to increase upon him; yet the natural fires of his genius continued to burn with unabated flame. Besides attending to his accustomed duties as General Agent of the Peabody and Slater Funds, in visiting and addressing schools, legislatures and educational meetings, he made many

occasional addresses of a more general character. In May, 1900, he attended a "Race Conference" at Montgomery, Alabama, where, as has been heretofore mentioned, his voice almost alone was one of hope for the future of the negro through education; on June 12 he delivered an address at the University of Virginia, taking for his theme the noble subject of "Law and Liberty," the Scotch-Irishman's motto, since the day of McNeill and "the Red Hand of Ulster;" and discussing the subject with a wealth of argument and of illustration that emphasized the duty and the opportunity of the South, to be accomplished through the work of its educated young men. In October he visited Tulane University, and delivered an address.

Under the date of November 26, 1900, occurs the following entry in the journal:—

Mary and I went to Baltimore; she to see the dressmaker, I to see Dr. Gilman, whose proposed resignation of the Presidency of Johns Hopkins University, to take effect at the end of the session, has been widely published and commented on. He suggested that he would like, in conjunction with my work and Southern visits, to give much of the remainder of his life, after thirty-five years in college and university work, to the study of Education in the South.

This entry is but little more than an echo of the many similar ones that appear from time to time in Curry's diaries, showing how often and how sympathetically the two men had before this time discussed a subject which so interested each of them.

In April, 1901, he attended the Fourth Conference for Education in the South, held at Winston-Salem,

North Carolina; and in June of this year he made the commencement address before the Literary Societies of the University of Georgia upon the occasion of its centennial celebration.

Fourteen years earlier, he had received from this institution the degree of Doctor of Laws; and sixty years before this centennial date, he had been a student within its walls, and a member of one of the Societies that he now addressed.

The Peabody Trust whose work he was soon to lay down actively will always have a peculiar and tender significance to the people of the South. Conceived in sympathy, administered with tact and diplomacy, and yet with farsightedness and justice, it came at just the nick of time, and did a fundamental service. It was a small endowment, as we now measure such things, though at the time it attracted the attention of the civilized world and helped to win for its giver a resting place in Westminster Abbey. Its income was never much in excess of \$150,000, yet it sought to establish an enduring system of common schools in the Southern States for both races. This daring program practically succeeded, because its policy of stimulation to self help touched a self-reliant and resilient population. Sears was a man of genius and diplomacy in school organization. Curry was a man of inspiration before the masses. By the time Curry assumed control, three-fifths of all income went to teacher training and two-fifths to special cases of public school development. Four great enduring achievements may be claimed as the result of Curry's administration:—

1. The establishment of State Normal Schools for each race in twelve Southern States.

2. The establishment of a system of public graded schools everywhere in the cities and small towns.
3. The establishment, in the minds of legislators, of the rural, common school as an everlasting responsibility.
4. The production of a body of literature by Curry in his forty reports and ten published addresses which appealed to a people undertaking such a task as assuming responsibility for the education of all the people, as no body of literature had done since Jefferson's stirring appeals and classic definitions.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING

IN the first month of 1902, Mrs. Curry was the recipient of the following note, written from Paris, in a strong feminine hand, on both sides of a four by five card, which bore the Spanish insignia of royalty:—

JANUARY 28th, 1902.

My DEAR MRS. CURRY:

I am so happy to hear that Mr. Curry is appointed Special Envoy to Madrid upon the coming of age of our King, next May. I shall be there, and I am looking forward, with great joy, to meet you again. I imagine you will first stop in Paris, and in that case, most probably, I shall have the pleasure of seeing you also here; as I do not think I shall leave for Madrid before May.

With kind regards to all yours, believe me as ever,

Your very affectionate friend,

EULALIA.

It was a kindly note, that a Spanish princess should have written to an American lady, at a time when the memories of the sea fight at Santiago were still very fresh in the minds of American men, and very bitter in those of Spaniards; and it indicates the personal hold—the fine attachment—which the Currys had made upon the hearts and minds of the best of those with whom they had been thrown during their sojourn at Madrid.

On January 27, 1902, Curry wrote in his journal

the following note, in which he places, before the record of his appointment as emissary to the Spanish Court, a memorial of his election into the oldest Greek-letter society of America, founded in the first year of the Revolution by a coterie of noble young spirits at the ancient capital of Williamsburg, Virginia,—a society, whose motto: "Philosophy, the guide of life," had been so singularly illustrated in his own career:—

Notice of election to membership in the Phi Beta Kappa Society of William and Mary.

Had a pleasant interview with President Roosevelt in reference to my Mission to Spain,—in reference to title.

- 1st. He thought it was or should be Ambassador.
- 2nd. There would be a Secretary.
- 3rd. As to compensation, referred to Secretary Hay.
- 4th. As to address on presentation, asked me to reduce to form, and submit to him.

On February 17 the commission and letter of credence as Special Envoy to Spain were received from the Secretary of State. On March 31 Curry called on the President, and submitted the proposed presentation address, which was cordially approved. A week later the following letter reached him from Secretary Hay:—

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
WASHINGTON, April 7, 1902.

DEAR DOCTOR CURRY:

Spain having indicated a wish that you should come as an Ambassador Extraordinary on Special Mission, the President has issued a new commission and a new letter of credence to you in that quality. These are sent to you to-day with a new instruction to accord therewith, all

bearing the date of the old papers, which are cancelled and should be returned to the Department.

Very truly yours,  
JOHN HAY.

Enclosures as above.

DOCTOR J. L. M. CURRY,  
etc., etc., etc.,  
Washington.

On Monday, April 14th, Curry went to Baltimore for a consultation concerning his health with Dr. William Osler of Johns Hopkins.

On April 18 Curry, with his wife and niece, Mrs. Connally Coxe, and a trained nurse, sailed on the "Staatdam." "It was his 19th crossing." They were joined in Paris by Mr. R. Simpkins of Boston, who had been appointed Secretary for this special mission.

Ten days later Curry and his party landed at Boulogne, whence they proceeded to Paris. Here they called by appointment on Mrs. Curry's friend, the Infanta Eulalia, and Queen Isabel, who received them with many marks of courtesy and cordiality. Upon their arrival at Madrid, they were met at the station by the Duke of Almodovar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Sickles and many other Spanish dignitaries. The Marquis of Villalobar, an old and intimate friend, had with that extreme thoughtfulness that characterized the actions of the Spanish Government at that time been appointed Special Aide to the American Ambassador. Nothing could have exceeded the lavish hospitality which was extended to the Currys, not only as America's representatives on such a great occasion, but as old and well remembered friends, who had never been for-

gotten by those who had known them, during their stay many years before. A beautiful villa was put at their disposal with many servants, guards and sentinels and all the details of luxurious living, from a carriage of the Royal Stables, with its men in full Royal livery, to the writing paper, and menu cards—all of which bore the Royal coat-of-arms.

On the 15th of April Curry writes in his diary:—

At 10 Secretary Simpkins and I, with Villalobar, went to the Palace and had an audience of Queen and King, and the Prince of Asturias.

His address on this occasion, which has been preserved among his papers, is not without interest as illustrating what an American citizen, clothed with the dignity of Ambassador Extraordinary, should say to a long-descended ruler, by the grace of God, arriving at his majority.

Curry said:—

I am charged as special Ambassador Extraordinary to bear you the greetings of the President and of the Government of the United States, as you stand with joyous expectation on the threshold of hope and progress, and to felicitate you on a long life, blessed by the example and spirit and teachings of a noble and world-honored mother, and to assure you of most cordial sympathy and co-operation in all efforts for development of resources, for adherence to the basal principles of law and order, and for the settlement of all differences on the basis of the equality of nations and stability of just governments. Science has made all the world akin, and no god, Terminus, stands at artificial barriers to arrest the flow of good-will or mutual helpfulness.

The object of this mission is to confirm anew the former utterances of my country's honored representative, and to reassure, in most emphatic manner, the earnest desire of

the President and of the people, to cement in indissoluble bonds the friendship of the new nations. There can be no political antagonism, no well-founded or enduring antipathy, between two peoples alike anxious of, and equally purposing, the closest relations of amity. This mission is the strongest assurance,—may it be the guarantee,—of peace and friendship, of social and commercial intercourse, in the pursuit of a common end, a nobler civilization, choosing the good, rejecting the evil.

The well-being of one nation is a factor in the well-being of all; and I voice the universal sentiment of my country when I say Spain and the United States should be inter-linked in chains of mutual interest, good will and happiness. America can never forget, must always honor, Spain's early and commanding history, her unquestioned superiority in the arts of policy and of war, her pre-eminence in art and literature, her chivalrous courage, tenacity of conviction, irrepressible vitality; and all nations will give her glad welcome as she springs forward to her ancient prestige, in rivalry for good government, for universal education, for accomplishing by best method, best skill, best abilities, best standards of action and belief, what will promote international harmony, domestic prosperity, and larger freedom. Peace is not a period of preparation for war, a whetting of swords for another conflict. It has a deeper, a diviner meaning,—the emulation of a brotherhood, which by infrangible bonds of a common interest and by international arbitration will make wars impossible.

As I was one of the first to hear the glad proclamation, *Viva el Rey!* from the lips of the present distinguished Premier, I come, for country and for self, after the lapse of sixteen years, to invoke blessings upon your Majesty and the Kingdom, and to wish for you abounding prosperity and happiness.

Curry remarks of the King, in his diary, as a comment upon the occasion:—

He is a well-grown boy, and impressed me rather favorably; and does not seem as fragile as I expected.

On the following day Curry was a guest at the royal banquet at the Palace, and occupied a place of honor near the King. On the same day he was the recipient, at the hands of the government, of the decoration of the Royal Order of Charles III.

On Saturday, May 17, he writes in his journal:—

Lovely day. At 2 to Congress to witness the taking of the oath by the King in presence of the Royal family, Cortes, Diplomatic Corps, foreign representatives. Much enthusiasm. Young King behaved well.

Went to church, where to a crowded house, the *Te Deum* was sung. King, Queen, Royal family, government, etc., present.

At night Mary and I dined with Sir H. M. Durand of the British Embassy. Then rode through the packed and brilliantly illuminated streets.

For nearly a week longer the Currys remained at Madrid, participating in the various functions and festivities that adorned and characterized a gala occasion. On May 22 they left the Spanish Capital, followed by many expressions of friendship and popularity; and after a stay of two months in France and Switzerland returned home.

## CHAPTER XIX

### LAST DAYS AND END

DURING this sojourn in Europe, Curry's health grew more impaired; and the attacks of his malady at times caused him much suffering. There seemed to be little, if any, improvement after his return home, in spite of the skilled treatment he had received, both in Europe and America, at the hands of eminent specialists. A man with less energy of will, or with a feebler aspiration for continued usefulness, might have been contented to relax his work under the burdens of pain and increasing age, and to await in quietude the inevitable end. But with unabated purpose he continued to keep his place in the front rank of those who sought to elevate and dignify the nation in which he had shown himself a leader. The educator once more took up his allotted task with an unfaltering spirit, and with an ever unsparing effort, that was accompanied and lightened by frequent expressions of appreciation which came to him from those who knew and recognized his distinguished service.

Before his departure for Madrid in April, he had participated in epoch making plans for the cause of education in the South and the nation; and these plans are indicated in an entry of his journal on February 27, 1902:—

Left for New York. Guest of W. H. Baldwin, Jr. We went to Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.'s, to dinner.

Present, Baldwin, Curry, Gates, Gilman, Ogden, Shaw, Page, Buttrick, and Edward M. Shepard as counsel. In the order named we signed our names to a paper defining the purpose of an Education Association, for which an incorporation was to be asked from Congress. An organization was effected, and Mr. Rockefeller, for his father, agreed to place \$1,000,000 in the hands of the Association, to be used at the rate of \$100,000 a year for education in the South.

Meeting harmonious, and every vote unanimous. We sat until after midnight.

On April 2 the following note was made in the journal:—

Left at 7:45 for New York. Trustees of General Education Board met at Mr. Jesup's at 4 p. m.

Very interesting meeting. Mr. J. D. Rockefeller placed \$1,000,000 at our disposal to be used in ten years according to a "policy" we had adopted. Some appropriations were made; others offered on conditions.

Thus simply does Curry record the beginnings of the General Education Board, now everywhere known as perhaps the most powerful educational foundation in the world. Since that day fifty-one million dollars have been given to this Board by Mr. John D. Rockefeller, with a wisdom and sagacity seldom equalled by the great givers of our times. The income from this huge foundation has enabled the Board to enlarge its field of operation, until now it embraces the continent. It has chosen for its special province the work of strengthening higher education in the Republic; throughout the South, in addition, it seeks to promote public high schools through the State universities and the State departments of education, and to subserve elementary education by the im-

provement of agricultural conditions and increasing the efficiency of rural life.

The fundamental idea of the Board is the stimulation to self-help of States, cities, and communities; and in pursuance of this idea it has directly and indirectly, under the thoughtful guidance of Frederick T. Gates and Wallace Buttrick, increased the permanent endowment of American colleges over twenty millions of dollars in the past five years; and its service to American education has just begun. In the language of Dr. C. A. Smith.

"The idea which moves this Board is not that of creating anything new, but of contributing to the efficiency of what already exists. Its desire is not to bolster up the weak, but to make the strong still stronger; not to choke off individual initiative, but to spur it on; not to make new institutions, but to encourage and assist those which have shown themselves useful to the people."

It was a great gratification to Curry, with the shadows of death falling across his path, to see the work of his life thus about to be carried forward by great agencies unimagined, when he emerged from the darkness and gloom of the lower South, smitten by the madness of reconstruction, to undertake his educational ministry. In 1905, upon a foundation of \$100,000, given by Mr. Rockefeller and in accordance with an expressed wish of his, the Curry Memorial School of Education was established at the University of Virginia, and recently the General Education Board, in honor of one of its greatest pioneer members, has added \$50,000 to the endowment of the School.

In July, 1902, shortly before Curry's return from abroad, a meeting of the Southern Education Board

and of the General Education Board was held in New York City, at which was indicated a general movement in the direction of harmonizing the different large educational funds then in existence, without imposing intentional restrictions upon their independent use and efficiency.

The following items from the journal are introductory of what was done in this direction at a later period:—

September 29.—Arrived in New York at 1:30 p. m. Manly met us at station, but left at once for boat and Atlanta.

Gov. Porter travelled with us from Asheville to New York.

Mr. Simpkins made us a visit.

Dr. Fraser, at my request, travelled from Washington to Baltimore, as I wished a conference with him on education in Virginia.

September 30.—Dr. Wallace Buttrick, Mrs. Morehead, Mr. Simpkins and Dr. Booker T. Washington came to see us.

My health improves.

Dr. Buttrick showed me a highly complimentary letter from Mr. John D. Rockefeller, who stands behind our General Education Board, expressing surprise and gratification at the success and hopefulness of the work. . . .

Wednesday, October 1.—Busy day from 9 to 5. Peabody Board met at noon. Important conferences preceding. Re-elected General Agent, *nem. con.* A Secretary, salary of \$2,000, authorized on motion, with commendatory remarks, of J. P. Morgan.

On my recommendation, two committees were appointed; one, on needs of Normal College; the other, on co-operation with "General Education Board."

I did not attend the usual banquet. . . .

Thursday, October 2.—Meeting, in my room, of Committee on College; Gilman, Hoar, Porter, Hoke Smith. Gov. Porter, in saying goodbye tearfully, said his injunction was to take good care of myself for next five weeks. The College never so much needed me. Its success depended on it; and his work would be a failure without me.

Left at 4 p. m.

Curry's high estimate of Governor Porter, and of his relation to the Peabody Normal College and the cause of education, is worthy of being recorded here:—

Governor Porter, who gave wise counsel and intelligent and influential support to Dr. Sears in his incipient proposition to ally the Peabody Board with the State in the establishment of the College, should be memorialized by monument and the gratitude of teachers as the man who rendered most efficient and invaluable aid.

Following the entry of October 2 in the journal is this brief and significant one:—

October 3.—Asheville in afternoon.

Relapse, and very sick.

This attack seems to have been ominous; and was indicative of his now rapidly waning vitality. He made no record in his journal, as he usually did, of this meeting of the Peabody Board; but contented himself with preserving in his scrap-book a newspaper clipping, which gave an account of it.

The Trustees of the Peabody Fund met yesterday in the Fifth Avenue Hotel at noon, and elected officers for the ensuing year, and received the reports of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, General Agent, and of J. Pierpont Morgan, Treasurer. Bishop William Croswell Doane of Albany was elected a member of the Board to succeed the late Bishop Whipple of Minnesota, and Morris K. Jesup to succeed

the late ex-Senator William M. Evarts. It was voted that at the call of the Chairman, Chief Justice Fuller, and the executive committees, a special meeting might be held in Washington in January to consider taking steps to bring the work of the Peabody Fund, the Slater Fund and the General Education Fund into greater harmony. No merging of management is contemplated, but it is desired to avoid duplication of work. Acting upon a motion made by Senator Hoar last year, an advisory board was elected for the Peabody Normal College at Nashville. W. A. Berry, W. H. McAllister, John M. Gannt and Willis Bonner, all of Tennessee, were elected. Dr. Curry in his report reviewed the work of the last twenty years of the Fund. It was voted that he be empowered to choose an assistant. The income of the Fund, amounting to \$80,000, was distributed among the scholarships and institutes in various States on last year's basis. Governor James D. Porter, the President of the Normal College; Dr. Curry, the General Agent; Dr. S. A. Green, the Secretary; and J. P. Morgan, the Treasurer, together with the standing committees, were re-elected. Those present were Samuel A. Green, J. L. M. Curry, James D. Porter, J. Pierpont Morgan, Chief Justice Fuller, Henderson M. Somerville, Daniel C. Gilman, George Peabody Wetmore, George F. Boar, and Hoke Smith. There was a dinner in the evening for the members and their guests.

By November, Curry's general health appears to have improved; and early in December he visited Nashville, and with Dean Russell, of the New York Teachers College, addressed the Peabody Normal College, leaving that afternoon for Asheville.

The Nashville *American* of December 6th gave the following account of this visit:—

No event has recently occurred in connection with the Peabody College which has been of more interest to the

College, its faculty, and the student body, than the recent visit of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, General Agent of the Peabody Board; Dr. James E. Russell, Dean of the Teachers' College of New York, and Dr. Wallace Buttrick, Secretary of the General Education Board of New York. At a meeting of the faculty of the Peabody College, held Thursday, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Be it resolved, that the faculty of the Peabody College for Teachers express its special thankfulness for the recent visit of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, and that we assure him of a gratitude we cannot put in words for the interest and help he has given this institution. Our sympathy goes out to him in this time of suffering, along with a pleading to the Father that he may be restored to his wonted vigor. His service to his generation has been mighty; may he be spared to crown a life, already rich toward God, with even greater achievements for the people he has loved with all his soul. His coming to us is the coming of a father; his welcome will ever be the welcome of a father.

"Be it resolved, that the faculty of the Peabody College for Teachers thank Dr. James E. Russell and Dr. Wallace Buttrick for their recent visit, and assure them of the service this visit yielded to the students, to the faculty, and to the institution as a whole. We extend to them our wishes for the prosperity of the great enterprise they are directing, with the hope that their duties will permit them to come to us frequently. For them our College household cherishes a warm welcome."

The kindly and gentle spirit of these resolves suggest the intimation that their adopters perceived the waves of life to be ebbing with the man, whose career had so closely touched that of the institution they represented. The resolutions are words of farewell.

Following the Peabody Board's meeting in October, and the visit to Nashville early in December, the brief entries in the journal, with the more frequent blanks and hiatuses, tell a pathetic story of protracted relapses, of severe surgical operations and of great sufferings. But the invincible courage remained still victorious, and the fading eyes continued to look forward with unabated hope. A sense of this stalwart and unyielding spirit is inevitably kindled by the perusal of the pages of the diary of 1902, with their brief jottings of a series of business appointments, running into the New Year.

In the meantime, letters of sympathy and encouragement and admiration were coming to him from many of the most distinguished of his friends and contemporaries, at home and abroad, not only in the educational world, but also in the world of politics and letters. Of themselves, they mark the conspicuous and approved position that Curry had achieved; and if space permitted their publication here, they would serve to adorn the pages which seek to chronicle his career.

One writes, "It is a matter of much rejoicing to us to see the fruition of the earnest seed-sowing that you have done these many years in the South;" another, "I hope that no temporary discouragement as to the condition of your health will induce you to think of leaving the great work of managing the Peabody and Slater funds, which have been for so many years the great sheet anchor of education in the South;" another, "It is the pride and solace of those who cherish your name and fame that they will be associated with great movements for the

blessing of so many;" and so the record might be almost indefinitely multiplied.

After a critical illness of two weeks, the end came at 11:20 o'clock, Thursday night, February 12, 1903, at the house of his brother-in-law, Colonel John A. Connally, near Asheville, North Carolina. Mrs. Curry, whose ill health had shortly before taken her to Philadelphia for medical treatment, returned to Asheville when her husband grew worse; and she was by his bedside when he died.

His wish that his mortal body might repose at Richmond, and be borne to its last resting-place from the halls of Richmond College, was faithfully regarded; and there gathered many of the foremost men of the nation to bear testimony to his worth.

"On the heights of Hollywood, overlooking the running river, his grave was made," writes a sympathetic friend. "Not far away is the grave of Dr. Jeter, for many years his friend and contemporary. Hard by is the grave of H. H. Harris, whom he loved with surpassing tenderness. In the same neighborhood sleeps the dust of William D. Thomas, his brother-in-law. These, with scores of their friends and brethren in Christ, await His coming."

The names in this paragraph are of those who were very near to him in affection and in the creed that he professed. Others yet, whose names and fames are linked with the larger country, sleep about him in the Valhalla of the South.

The shock and strain of the great separation brought his devoted wife to his side within three short months, during which her thoughts had dwelt constantly upon the perpetuation of his work and his

fame. Upon the memorial stone marking their common resting place is graven this triumphant promise:—

They that wonder shall  
Reign, and they that  
Reign shall rest.

## CHAPTER XX

### FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES

CURRY's life, passing the period named by the Psalmist, covered a time of amazing development, during which his own country advanced to the front rank among nations and the world about him was made over, before his eyes, in political machinery, economic method, scientific power and social purpose. Born in the administration of John Quincy Adams, and while Thomas Jefferson still lived and was launching the last darling project of his heart—the University of Virginia—he held his latest commission in the public service from Theodore Roosevelt. His career was contemporaneous with those of many of the most distinguished men and women in the history of his country; and his associations with a large number of these men and women were more than casual. His visits abroad, and his services as a diplomat, afforded him the opportunity of knowing many of the first personages of his generation in the political, literary and social life of the old world; and his journals abound with references to these friends and acquaintances.

Frequent mention has been made in the preceding pages of his admiration for Calhoun. No man exercised a more potent influence upon his younger life, in directing his adoption of the political theories and principles of the Federal Government, than did the

great South Carolinian; and no man ever, throughout his career, more nearly measured up to his conception of the ideal statesman. Curry's meeting with Calhoun,—the one entering, the other nearing the close of his public career,—on the occasion of the former's return home from Harvard in 1845, has already been detailed in a former chapter. Throughout his political experiences in Alabama, and during his service in Congress, the younger man remained an avowed follower of the elder; and into his later years of a broader and more chastened experience, he kept the master's faith, and ranked Calhoun with the most intellectual of the world's political philosophers.

Frequent reminiscences of the War between the States, and of the Southern leaders, have appeared in earlier pages of this book. The following extracts contain allusions to four of the most unique figures in the armies of the South,—General Cockrell, less well-known than the other three; General Pat Cleburne, whose fame the poet, Ticknor, has blazoned in one of the most stirring of Southern war lyrics; General Leonidas Polk, who fashioned his bishop's crozier into a sword-blade in defense of his country; and the partisan leader, Colonel John S. Mosby, whose "Confederacy" was, for a long period of the war, maintained in the enemy's country with an unsurpassed and famous gallantry.

"Near New Hope," writes Curry, "occurred one of the most brilliant sorties of the campaign. Some of the Union forces made a desperate and bold effort to break through our right. They were met by as gallant a defence as soldiers ever made. The Confederates under Cleburne, Cockrell and others, displayed heroic courage; and when

the attacking party withdrew, the ground was so covered with dead and disabled that one could have traversed it by walking on bodies. I never saw on battle field such havoc and destruction of human life. Cockrell, now Senator from Missouri, brave as Julius Caesar, tender-hearted as a woman, never appears to greater advantage than when, in the midst of peril, he leads those who worship him to combat and victory. Cleburne, of Irish parentage, was a born captain, and like Jackson and Forrest and Semmes and Gordon, was conspicuous for generalship which seems to have come from instinct, or to have been heaven-endowed. In my old Congressional district, a county, cut off from Randolph and Calhoun, through which the Southern Railway passes, keeps alive the name and fame of Cleburne."

"In March (1864) I went to Demopolis, at the request of Gen. Leonidas Polk, a bishop of the Episcopal Church, who had resigned his clerical position in order to serve the Confederacy in the field. A grand review of 20,000 troops took place, and I had the honor of addressing acres of soldiers. . . .

"It was near Marietta that our army was thrown into deep grief by the untimely death of Gen. Polk, who exposing himself too long while making an observation, was struck by a shell and killed suddenly. His piety, devotion to his church, fervent patriotism and soldierly qualities endeared him to army and people, and gave our cause the prestige of his striking personality."

"December 4, 1866.—Left Washington City in company with Dr. Plummer. Met Col. Mosby, the famous partisan leader, on the cars. Pointed out many places of historic interest. A modest, unassuming, intelligent gentleman."

Among Curry's papers is the following about "Stonewall" Jackson:—

Gen. T. J. Jackson is more universally loved in the Confederacy than any other officer except Lee. His marvel-

lous achievements were the result of extraordinary military genius. Col. Henderson, in his "Life of Jackson," the best book written on the War, writing not as a partisan but as an unprejudiced military critic,—a Jomini or Napier,—ascribes to him the highest qualities as a captain. For years prior to the War he had been a professor in the Virginia Military Institute; but he had little aptness to teach; and his piety and courage did not shield him from adverse criticism as a teacher. On 20 May, 1875, I made a call on Gov. Kemper; and in the course of the evening he said that in 1857, when a member of the Board of Visitors of the Virginia Military Institute, one of the professors appeared before that body with two hundred cadets, and in a formal manner demanded the removal of Col. Jackson from his professorship for "intellectual incompetency." The demand was fortunately not acceded to, and the professor continued in the discharge of his collegiate duties until the war occurred, when he promptly offered his services as a soldier.

Mention has heretofore been made of Horace Greeley's complimentary allusion in *The Tribune* to Curry's first speech in Congress. Under date of Sunday, August 6, 1871, occurs the following note in the diary:—

Preached at 11:30 A. M. at Madison Avenue Baptist Church (New York). Administered the Lord's Supper in morning. Horace Greeley was present in the morning, and soundly slept.

Curry's acquaintances among famous Englishmen were numerous. His meetings with Matthew Arnold, Joseph Chamberlain, Goldwin Smith, and others have been already mentioned. In a newspaper clipping preserved by him, and contributed by him to the *Religious Herald*, he writes of Arnold:—

Matthew Arnold was also once in Richmond for a few

days. As he brought a letter of introduction to me from the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, it was my privilege to show him some attention and enjoy his companionship. In a carriage we visited objects of historic, civil and social interest, and talked over many subjects, for he was inquisitive rather than communicative. As he had been school inspector in England, and was the son of a great schoolmaster, our schools much interested him. He did not impress me as a sound observer, for he generalized hastily as to people and institutions from narrow data. Archbishop Tait, of Canterbury, whose life is interesting and instructive, said: "I despair of knowing anything for certain of the real life of any people without living long amongst them." How much we have suffered at the South from the hasty conclusions of Pullman-car observers! Mr. Arnold lectured at night in Mozart Hall. He read closely, and excited some adverse comments, for many of us had read the lecture, which had previously appeared in an English magazine, and in "Littell." The offence to our provincialism was somewhat softened when we learned that a few nights before a Boston audience had been served with the same "cold soup."

Other desultory notes of his chance associations with, or reminiscences of Dean Stanley, Beresford Hope, Charles Stewart Parnell, Bright, Gladstone, Mr. Bryce, and Spurgeon, are found in his journals and note books.

In 1875 I heard Dean Stanley, in Westminster, preach a funeral discourse on Bishop Thirlwall, and witnessed the burial.

On 5 October, 1875, I dined at Col. Archer Anderson's with the Dean. Low in stature, wore knee-pants, low-quartered shoes with silver buckles, "shad-bellied" coat; had the usual English mutton-chop whiskers; had on the medal of the Deanery of Westminster, a circular gold

piece, with three crowns, shamrock and thistle.—Quiet, unostentatious, pleasant; did not smoke. Pleased with references to his books, and by allusions to him in "Tom Brown at Rugby."—Said Dr. Arnold ruled more by "awe" than by law. In after life, became rather intimate; but could never quite overcome his fear. Rather shocked once, when Bunsen, in earnest conversation, slapped Arnold on the knees. Contrasted Grant and Dom Pedro of Brazil, rather unfavorably as to Grant, showing he did not know the great general. He called Bishop Ellicott "Charles," and Trevelyan "George;" said Macaulay attended worship, and was an ordinarily "religious" man.

The Dean had an unusually large acquaintance and friendship outside of the clergy, and was especially a favorite with Americans. In his ecclesiastical opinions, he was rather a combination of Broad Church and Liberal, and hence drew upon himself the "reptilian criticism" of some Ritualistic newspapers. His "Christian Institutions" frankly conceded that primitive baptism was by immersion; and when the statue of John Bunyan, the "immortal Baptist tinker," and author of "Pilgrim's Progress" was unveiled, by a natural fitness of things he made a delightful address. A churchly paper, in commenting on the event, with vitriolic malice said that when the statue of the Devil was finished, the fittest person to unveil it would be the Dean of Westminster.

His handwriting was undecipherable; and answers to invitations to dinner were sometimes returned, that the hostess might ascertain whether there was an acceptance or declination.

In April, 1876, returning home after nearly a year's absence in Europe, Asia and Africa, I tarried for a season in London, and in the Lake District in England. Having a letter of introduction from the Governor of Virginia, which had been previously presented, I accepted an invitation to breakfast from Beresford Hope, then representing Cambridge University in the British Parliament. At the